

Maghreb states prepare summit

TUNIS (R) — The five northwest African states have agreed in principle to a Libyan-proposed summit meeting to discuss regional affairs and the Lebanon crisis, a senior Libyan official said Tuesday. The Libyan Secretary of Justice and the Interior, Mohammed Ibn Belgacem Zouli, said the leaders of Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria and Tunisia had agreed to the summit meeting as soon as detailed preparations could be made. Mr. Zouli had visited the other four countries in the past week with an appeal from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi for a unified stance on Lebanon. He said U.S. forces in Lebanon had committed "aggression" by firing recently on anti-government forces in Lebanon, and the Maghreb states could not ignore this.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Greece turns away U.S. ships

ATHENS (R) — Greece, which says it does not want to support any party involved in the Lebanon fighting, said Tuesday it had barred a U.S. ship on its way to Beirut from landing at a U.S. base in Crete to take on material. The government last week turned down requests by both the United States and Italy for transit facilities for planes on their way to Lebanon. It also denied press reports that it allowed military planes on their way from the Eastern Bloc to Syria to stop over in Greece. The government spokesman confirmed a report in Tuesday's afternoon newspaper Ta Nea that a U.S. navy transport ship destined for Lebanon was barred Monday from landing at the U.S. Souda Base in Crete to take on supplies and material. An official Greek statement Tuesday welcomed Monday's ceasefire as a step towards reconciliation and said Athens hoped it would be a step towards the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

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Prince Bandar leaves for U.S.

JEDDAH (R) — Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi Arabian diplomat who mediated the Lebanese ceasefire, left Tuesday for Paris on his way to Washington to take up his new post as ambassador to the United States, officials said here. They said a new Saudi official would soon be named to attend the forthcoming inter-Lebanese dialogue as provided for in the ceasefire agreement which went into effect early Monday.

Poland wants better ties with Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Poland Tuesday said it wanted to develop relations with Iraq and boost cooperation. The official Iraq News Agency INA said the call came in a letter from Polish Deputy Premier Janusz Obodowski to Iraq's First Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan. Polish state-owned companies are participating in various development projects in Iraq including a new city plan for Baghdad drawn up by the Warsaw-based Pol-Service City Planning Organisation.

Qatari crown prince leaves Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Qatar's Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani left Tuesday for home after three days of talks with Bahraini officials on Gulf relations and Middle East problems, the official Gulf News Agency reported. A statement on his talks issued in Bahrain Monday said Qatar and Bahrain had agreed it would be necessary to convene the scheduled summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council members in November to discuss Middle East problems and cooperation among the six member states.

Khaddam leaves for New York

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam left for New York Tuesday to attend the United Nations General Assembly, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Mr. Khaddam, a key figure in the negotiations leading to the Lebanese ceasefire agreement on Sunday, was originally scheduled to leave last Friday but delayed his departure to help finalise details of the ceasefire accord.

Iran threatens to restrict Gulf shipping

TEHRAN (R) — Iran warned Tuesday that it would restrict shipping in the Gulf if Arab states in the area continued to allow their ports to be used by ships delivering weapons for Iraq. President Ali Khamenei told a meeting of foreign diplomats, reporters and Iranian military leaders that Iran knew ships carrying arms for Iraq had entered the Gulf through the Straits of Hormuz and unloaded in ports belonging to Iraq's Arab neighbours.

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Shooting mars fragile ceasefire in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese army exchanged fire with gunmen in Beirut's southern suburbs Tuesday on the second day of a fragile ceasefire and an Italian paratrooper was wounded in the crossfire.

An Italian military spokesman said the paratrooper was hit in the thigh on the southeastern outskirts of Beirut during a firefight between Lebanese soldiers and gunmen, believed to be from the Amal militia.

The soldier, Sergio Crotti, 20, was the first member of the U.S., French, Italian and British peace force to be injured since a ceasefire Monday morning ended three weeks of bloody fighting between the Lebanese army and Syrian-backed insurgents.

One Lebanese soldier died Monday but government media said the ceasefire was generally being observed despite exchanges of fire in the troubled southern suburbs and reported build-ups of gunmen on the outskirts of Beirut.

Lebanon's warring factions meanwhile wrangled over where a security committee charged with enforcing the ceasefire would meet.

The committee, which includes the Lebanese army and the warring factions, was due to meet at the Defence Ministry Tuesday morning but officials said the meeting was postponed while they searched for a different venue.

Information Minister Roger Shikhandi said Lebanon had asked for 600 observers to monitor the ceasefire, which is expected to be followed by a national reconciliation conference to reshape Lebanon politically.

Mr. Shikhandi's statement, which was quoted by state-run

Beirut Radio, did not say where the observers would come from but he said nearly all of them were already in Lebanon.

Diplomats in Beirut expect the observers to come from United Nations forces in Lebanon, boosted by French and Italian officers from the Multinational Force in Beirut.

Appointing the observers was due to be one of the first tasks of the security committee at its now-postponed meeting Tuesday morning.

It groups the Lebanese army with Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militias, the Lebanese forces and Amal (hope) paramilitary organisation.

Western military analysts, expecting daily violations of the ceasefire, said there was little hope the peace would last unless a fixed mechanism to prevent any escalation was created.

The ceasefire, hammered out by U.S. and Saudi mediators, is billed as the first step towards a proposed national reconciliation conference which President Amin Gemayel will call if the ceasefire holds.

The Murabitoun Radio said the security committee would meet in Larnaca, Cyprus, within 48 hours to get round the problem of where to meet in Lebanon. There was no immediate confirmation of the report.

Government sources said the reconciliation conference would begin abroad, probably in Jeddah.

Saudi Arabia.

They said no date had been fixed for the talks, which are due to restructure the political make-up of Lebanon.

In Damascus, the government newspaper Tishrin warned that Syria would resist any attempt to turn the ceasefire into a mere silencing of guns without following up with national dialogue.

The ceasefire ended three weeks of bitter fighting, estimated to have killed some 900 people. Central Beirut was once again clogged with traffic jams as war-weary residents returned to their jobs.

Lebanese officials said Beirut International Airport, closed since Aug. 28 and a frequent target of shellfire, could reopen on Thursday.

Selim Salam, President of the Lebanese national carrier Middle East Airlines (MEA), said the first MEA plane would return to Beirut International Airport on that day, state-controlled television reported.

MEA, used to recurrent closures of its home airport, has kept its fleet outside Beirut with much of it in nearby Cyprus.

Several Beirut newspapers questioned whether the ceasefire would hold, or just give the combatants time to boost their military positions.

Al Amal, organ of the Falangist Party, said it was the 179th ceasefire in the last 10 years. "This means that 178 similar accords have not stopped the cycle of bloody violence," it commented.

Despite the more relaxed atmosphere in Beirut, the army reminded residents to stay indoors during the night curfew and warned it would arrest violators.

Share: Syria has never blocked peace

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Farouq Al Share said Tuesday Syria had never been an obstacle to achieving a ceasefire in Lebanon.

In an interview with the American National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) he said: "Syria has never been an obstacle to reaching a ceasefire in Lebanon... we believe the obstacle to reaching an earlier agreement was the Falange and Beirut government intransigent attitude."

Syria played a key role in arranging the ceasefire which came into effect in Lebanon Monday, ending more than three weeks of bitter factional fighting.

On the proposed national reconciliation dialogue, one of four points of the Saudi-mediated ceasefire accord, Mr. Share said: "We believe a national reconciliation dialogue in Lebanon has been a strategic goal for the Syrian government since 1976."

The minister was referring to the date when Syrian troops entered Lebanon under an Arab League mandate to help end the civil war there.

Mr. Share said Syria had been optimistic throughout the three-week long negotiations involving Saudi Arabians, Lebanese and U.S. mediators.

"Syria had to be optimistic although we know other parties, that

is the Falange in particular, are not willing to enter a dialogue in Lebanon," he said.

Mr. Share said an estimated 40,000 Syrian troops deployed in almost a third of Lebanon had never been an obstacle to withdrawal of all foreign forces.

"We believe Israeli forces are the obstacle to withdrawal. It is within their grand design to stay and occupy the south of Lebanon and to interfere in the internal and domestic life of Lebanese people," he said.

Lebanon signed a separate withdrawal agreement with Israel in May against strong Syrian objections.

3 ministers ousted in Kenyan elections

NAIROBI (R) — At least three cabinet ministers and eight junior members of the Kenyan government were ousted in Monday's general elections, according to official results announced Tuesday.

Kenyan voters have a habit of rejecting almost half of the sitting members of parliament and the trend appeared to be confirmed Tuesday as results continued to trickle in.

According to an unofficial count late Tuesday, in 73 of the 153 seats contested Monday 30 defending members of parliament had been beaten.

The elections were called a year

early by President Daniel arap Moi who dissolved the national assembly in June in order, he said, to purge the government of disloyal elements.

Among the most notable candidates who failed to retain their seats was the assistant minister to the President's Office, John Keen — widely regarded as one of Mr. Moi's closest advisers.

Under Kenyan law, only members of parliament can be made ministers and defeat at the polls Monday for Muriyia Waiyaki, agriculture minister, Godfrey Karuki, lands and physical planning

minister, and Labour Minister Titus Mbatia meant they would almost have to surrender their portfolios.

Major cabinet figures re-elected included Foreign Minister Robert Ouko and Culture and Social Services Minister Stanley Olooipit, one of the most colourful characters in Kenyan politics.

With half the results still to come in, the abstention rate, particularly in city areas, appeared to be higher than in the last general elections in 1979 when nearly 60 per cent voted.

Moscow scorns Reagan's missile offer

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday poured scorn on President Reagan's new proposals on curbing medium range missiles and dismissed them as unacceptable.

The first direct Soviet reaction to Mr. Reagan's peace challenge in a speech at the United Nations Monday came in a commentary by Radio Moscow.

On Monday night the official news agency TASS used unusually acid language to denounce Mr. Reagan's speech as full of hypocrisy and blatant lies, but it ignored his peace call.

The radio said there was "not a grain of truth" in Mr. Reagan's argument that he was genuinely seeking agreement at the Geneva arms talks and repeated Moscow's argument that Washington was determined to deploy its new Per-

shing II and cruise missiles.

"In reality the proposals are a modification of the notorious Zero Option which is actually aimed at the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union and is therefore unacceptable to the Soviet side," the radio said.

Under the Zero Option, long rejected by the Kremlin, all Soviet SS-20 European based missiles would be withdrawn in return for NATO agreeing to cancel deployment of the 572 new missiles, due to start in December.

The Soviet Union says there is a balance of forces now and that it will reduce its rockets to the level of French and British weapons in return for non-deployment by NATO.

Diplomats said there was no surprise in Moscow's public reaction to the Reagan proposals

since the official Soviet media rejected them as soon as they were leaked last week.

Mr. Reagan Monday said he was making concessions to Moscow in three main areas.

He gave an assurance that any "interim" reduction of U.S. weapons would include the Pershing, the deadlier of the two new missiles, and he agreed to include bombers in calculations on medium range weapons systems.

He also held out the prospect that U.S. warhead numbers globally would not necessarily be as high as those of the Soviet Union.

Bonn welcomes initiative

The West German government has welcomed President Reagan's latest initiative over the U.S.-Soviet arms talks deadlock in



U.S. Marines stationed at Beirut International Airport, Tuesday enjoy a card game during ceasefire (A.P. wirephoto).

Palestinians, Syrians clash in Tripoli

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Palestinian commandos exchanged artillery fire with Syrian forces in north Lebanon Tuesday after a fierce inter-Palestinian clash in a refugee camp in which up to 17 commandos were reported killed.

Lebanese security officials in Tripoli said commandos in the Biddawi Refugee Camp, five kilometres north of the town, exchanged shellfire with Syrian troops in the village of Rawda, about 12 kilometres east of the camp.

The officials did not give details but the Palestinian fire was widely thought to be from Fateh commandos loyal to Mr. Yasser Arafat.

During the artillery exchange, shells landed in villages between the camp and Rawda, the officials said.

One shell destroyed a house in the village of Hamdoun, wounding its owner. It was not yet known whether there were other casualties in the shelling, they added.

Earlier, pro and anti-Arafat commandos fought a fierce battle in the Biddawi Camp and the anti-Arafat side said 17 of its men had been killed.

The fighting appeared to be for positions held by the Libyan-backed, anti-Arafat Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

The positions are on the edge of the camp and close to bases of pro-Arafat men, mostly from PLO Chairman Arafat's own mainstream Fateh group.

In Damascus, a PFLP-GC statement accused Mr. Arafat supporters of launching an attack and directly blamed Mr. Arafat and his deputy Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad).

Mr. Arafat arrived in Biddawi secretly last week, apparently by boat from Cyprus, despite a Syrian ban on his presence in Syria or Syrian-held Lebanese territory. Syrian forces control all of north Lebanon, including Tripoli, although they stay out of Tripoli town centre and the Palestinian camps.

The Palestinian News Agency Wafa reported from Tripoli later that Mr. Arafat and Abu Jihad had inspected Palestinian fighters' positions in north Lebanon Tuesday.

Iranian wells still leaking

BAHRAIN (R) — Two war-damaged Iranian oil wells are still pouring almost 3,300 barrels of oil a day into the waters of the Gulf, a Saudi Arabian environment official said Tuesday.

The official Saudi Press Agency said Abdul Bir Al Yaqin, vice-president of the kingdom's Meteorology and Environment Protection Department, described Iran's capping of one of three damaged wells in the offshore Nowruz Field as "encouraging and optimistic."

But he said the capped well had been spilling just 3,000 barrels of crude oil a day and the remaining two were still leaking nearly 3,300 barrels daily.

Iran said last week it had capped the Nowruz No. 3 well, but that two other offshore wells were ablaze. It has accused Iraq of attacking the wells.

Oil from the wells was dripping to the sea-bed, forming a thick layer of tar which might affect marine life in the long run and industrial installations in the region, he said.

But the Saudi official said Saudi Arabia's coastline was free from pollution from the resultant oil slick and that observation operations were continuing.

He said the country's desalination plants were operating at full capacity.

Iraq says Iran planning new offensive

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Tuesday that Iranian forces had completed preparations for a fresh Gulf war offensive and warned Tehran that any attack would be crushed.

An Iraqi military spokesman, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency INA, said latest information reaching Baghdad was that Iran had completed preparations for a fresh assault. He did not indicate where the attack might be launched.

Reliable sources in Baghdad said Iraq had sent some of its best troops and modern weapons to

confront big Iranian troop concentrations opposite Iraq's southern Misan province.

The mainly flat and marshy province was the scene of a big Iranian offensive in April, which Iraq said it repulsed, killing nearly 15,000 Iranian soldiers in the process.

The military spokesman said Tuesday: "We are determined, as we did in Misan, not only to retaliate against any aggression but also to make the enemy's forces face great losses and crush them completely."

The spokesman said at the same time Iraq would retaliate by attacking other selected targets deep inside Iran.

Since two limited Iranian border operations in the northern and central sectors of the war in July, there has been a lull in ground fighting.

Attention has been focussed on Iranian threats to close the Gulf, through which most Middle East oil passes, by sealing the Strait of Hormuz if Iraq attacks oil installations and halts the movement of Iranian oil.

Shamir, Peres hold unity talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel's Prime Minister designate Yitzhak Shamir met Labour opposition leader Shimon Peres for a second day of talks Tuesday on the possibility of setting up a National Unity Coalition.

Labour politicians were pessimistic that the two leaders could overcome differences on major political and economic issues.

The Labour Party wants Mr. Shamir to agree to cut its Jewish settlement drive in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and to end the Israeli military presence in Lebanon.

Mr. Shamir, who has already won the support of enough small parties to assure him a slim parliamentary majority, was pressed by his colleagues to seek a broader-based coalition.

The talks could drag on for days because each side is unwilling to appear to have backed away from a National Unity government, which is favoured by public opinion, political analysts said.

In Tuesday's talks the Labour Party presented its demands on social and economic measures to aid the floundering economy, and again discussed the West Bank. The meeting broke up after more than three hours.

Mr. Peres was quoted by Israel Radio as saying basic differences remained. But the parties agreed to meet again later this week.

Mr. Begin, who tendered his resignation 12 days ago, has been ill and secluded at home for weeks, though he continues formally to head a caretaker government until a new coalition is formed.

Hussein, Noor in Oman

MUSCAT (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein, Queen Noor and the accompanying delegation arrived in Oman Tuesday afternoon on a visit to the Sultanate, during which the King will hold talks with Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id.

The King was received at Salalah Airport by Sultan Qaboos, Deputy Prime Minister for Legal Affairs Fahd Ibn Mahmud Al Said, Omani Royal Court Affairs Minister Hammad Ibn Hmoud and senior Omani military and government officials.

Hassan receives UNRWA officials

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, received in the Royal Court Tuesday World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director and UNRWA representative, Hussein Gezairy and Director of Health in the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) John Hiddlestone.

The meeting also reviewed UNRWA health care, education and training programmes in the region.

(Malhas attends UNRWA-WHO meeting, page 3)

Reasons for Gulf Air crash still not known

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahraini Minister of Industry and Development Youssef Ahmad Shirawi said Tuesday it was still not clear what caused the crash of a Gulf Air Boeing 737 last Friday near Abu Dhabi, which killed all 111 people aboard.

Shirawi told reporters following a Gulf Air board meeting: "We don't know yet whether it is an act of sabotage or not... we cannot confirm sabotage and we cannot deny it."

There have been so far unsubstantiated suggestions in Gulf newspapers that the crash may have been caused by sabotage. An eyewitness reported seeing smoke coming from the plane before it exploded and crashed.

Mr. Shirawi said the aircraft's

"black box" flight recorder had been sent to Washington for analysis and a report would be sent here in the next few days.

The plane, which was due to land at Abu Dhabi on its way from Karachi to Bahrain, had 97 Pakistanis, nine Britons, an American and an Iranian aboard in addition to an Omani pilot, and Bahraini co-pilot and chief stewards.

The 111 people killed in the crash are expected to be buried in mass graves in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the official Emirates News Agency (WAM) said Tuesday.

The UAE Health Ministry has recommended this because the bodies had been mutilated beyond recognition in the disaster, the agency said.

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium announces with deep regret the death on Sept. 25th 1983

of
HIS MAJESTY KING LEOPOLD III

A condolence register will be opened at the chancery of the Embassy on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday respectively the 28th, 29th of September and 1st of October 1983, from 11:00 to 13:00 hrs.

Jordan to participate in Casablanca conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Executive Council of the Federation of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce decided in its session Monday to participate in the second conference of Arab businessmen and investors to be held in Casablanca late next month.

The council also decided to name delegates to take part in the seminar on the benefits of oil, which is organized by the Arab Union of Food Industries, to be held in Amman on Oct. 17.

Another decision was taken on participation in the Arab-Finnish seminar on food industries to be held in Kuwait on Oct. 23. The council meeting also approved the results of the Irbid Chamber of Commerce election.

The meeting also reviewed Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour's proposal to train a number of Algerian employees on the use of Arabic language in trade and administration procedure and correspondence. The proposal was approved by the council, and the chambers of commerce in Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, and Ramtha expressed readiness to train 2-5 visiting Algerian employees each.

A proposal by Mr. Asfour for convening the Jordanian-Indian Economic Committee mid-November was also approved by the council, which decided to ask member chambers to submit proposed topics to be discussed in the meeting.

Details of Sahab housing demanded

AMMAN (Petra) — Industrial Estates Corporation (IEC) Director General Fayez Al Suheimat has asked all investors, companies and tenants at the Amman industrial estate at Sahab, to call at IEC offices as soon as possible to complete procedures of defining their requirements for housing units at the IEC housing project, implemented by the Housing Corporation. Housing units have been licensed for bachelors with an 84 square metre area, while other housing units have been licensed for married people with 108 sq.m. area each, Dr. Suheimat added.

These housing units will be offered to prospective tenants at easy-installment payments, Dr. Suheimat said.

Petra school holds session

IRBID (Petra) — The Petra School of Physics (PSP) discussed in a session, held at Yarmouk University Tuesday, two research papers on the optical properties of crystalline solids and finding energy of crystals.

Participants in the conference visited the natural museum, library and engineering workshops at the university. Taking part in the five-day conference, which holds its sessions at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office, are physicists from the U.S., Sweden, Tunisia, Greece, Kuwait, Egypt, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and Switzerland, in addition to Jordan.

Stay away from bridge on Sept. 28

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Directorate advises those who want to cross the King Hussein Bridge to the occupied West Bank not to attempt to do so on Wednesday Sept. 28.



Military attaches from several foreign embassies in Amman Tuesday visit the Third Royal Armoured Division. (Petra photo)

Military attaches visit Third Royal Armoured Division, Engineering Corps

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of military attaches from various diplomatic missions in Jordan visited Tuesday morning the Third Royal Armoured Division. The team listened to a briefing by the division commander on the functions and duties of the division and the targets it aims to accomplish.

The team later visited one of the division formations where they watched a parade of armour used by the formations and heard a briefing on its properties.

The team later visited the Royal Engineering Corps School, where they were briefed by school com-

mander on the educational programmes and training courses of the school, which are attended by officers from various Arab countries. The team expressed at the end of their visit high appreciation of the standard the Jordanian Armed Forces have reached.



ACDIMA board of directors hold meeting Tuesday in Amman. (Petra photo)

ACDIMA directors hold meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the Arab Company for Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies (ACDIMA) opened a three-day meeting Tuesday under the chairmanship of ACDIMA president, the under-secretary of Saudi Ministry of Finance.

The meeting will discuss a number of issues on ACDIMA pro-

grammes and pharmaceutical projects the company contributes to in several Arab countries to realize Arab drug security.

The meeting will also discuss technical, economic and administrative topics of concern to ACDIMA, a joint Arab company established by the Arab Council of

Economic Unity (ACEU) with an initial capital of 60 million Kuwaiti dinars, and contributed to by 16 Arab countries.

The current ACDIMA meeting is attended by representatives of United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, Libya and Jordan.

UNRWA has undergone many changes, health minister says

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) has been firmly entrenched in the medical annals of Jordan for the last 30 years.

This is manifested in the excellent work that was done in the now occupied West Bank and the East Bank of Jordan. Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas said Tuesday.

Dr. Malhas was speaking at the opening of a two-day meeting of UNRWA's field health officers held at the agency's headquarters in Amman.

The meeting is on the development of the UNRWA health services for Palestinian refugees. It is also attended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) regional director for the eastern Mediterranean region, who is a representative in UNRWA, Hussein Gezairy, and by the director of health in the agency's headquarters in Vienna, John Hiddlestone.

In his address, Dr. Malhas said that as all things develop or get underdeveloped through political changes, UNRWA has undergone a metamorphosis since that time.

"The type of work and services that they offer have changed drastically, together with the important factor of the financial constraints," Dr. Malhas said.

He said that Jordan is one of the largest areas where UNRWA "has a lot to do unfortunately and our relationship along the directorate level is excellent."

He said that in spite of the fact that UNRWA does a lot of work in the field of primary health care "it is sometimes very difficult to draw up a dividing line between where UNRWA starts and ends or where the Ministry of Health starts and ends."

Dr. Malhas stressed that the ministry's and the agency's work is intermingled together "a lot of the time, if not most of the time."

However, Dr. Malhas pointed out that the ministry has some concerns as far as the work of UNRWA is concerned, and one of them is the ecological conditions in the various camps. "It is no secret that much can be done," he said.

He added that Prime Minister Mudar Badran has called the year 1984 the "year of water and sanitation" and "the government is putting all its weight and its financial backing on improving water resources, water distribution, san-

itation and also sewage disposal." Dr. Malhas said that the government is keen to apply this in most of the camps and "as a matter of fact at least two of the camps have already been covered at the government's expense."

Dr. Malhas pointed out that the issue of hospital care of the refugees that arose a few years ago between UNRWA and the ministry has not been solved yet, and hoped that it will be discussed in the meeting to reach an adequate solution.

He emphasised that the cost of hospitalisation has become astronomical and "it is just absolutely difficult for the agency or the ministry to bear it single-handedly."

Moreover, Dr. Malhas said, the Ministry of Health in Jordan bears the responsibility for most of the tertiary care that people need irrespective of where they come from.

He said that the treatment is done in the fields of open-heart surgery, brain surgery, the very costly affair of chronic kidney dialysis and in other highly specialised areas.

Dr. Malhas added that all patients in Jordan who need treatment, the ministry with its new budget for highly-specialised treatment are treated either at the Jordan University Hospital or at King Hussein Medical Centre and "many of the patients are refugees."

Regarding the cost of such specialised treatment, Dr. Malhas said that the cost is about JD 6,000 - 8,000 per year per patient.

He added that the budget for this year started with JD 1/2 million. In respect of poorer patients who cannot afford such treatment he said, that it is done at the government's expense and sometimes with "a tiny help from UNRWA."

He said that these points must be raised during the meeting "though I know that you are under financial constraints but I think it is time to be a bit more aggressive in asking for such financial support in rare and special cases."

Dr. Malhas in his speech also expressed appreciation that WHO has become involved in the work of UNRWA.

"The presence of Dr. Gezairy is

a very encouraging step for consolidating the work with WHO and maybe with other world agencies to give more help, more medical care that is urgently needed in acute cases among the refugees."

Dr. Hiddlestone, who welcomed Dr. Malhas and Dr. Gezairy at the start of the session, said that the UNRWA Health Department divisional meeting is an extremely important occasion.

Developing priorities

"We can discuss in detail the way in which we are developing priorities, reviewing our activities and our general planning," he said.

Dr. Hiddlestone added that all of these are particularly important now as UNRWA operations depend on annual budget hearings and "what we will be discussing is related to the application for adequate financial support."

Dr. Hiddlestone said that an agency like UNRWA which has its largest field in Jordan "has a very real role to play in the health services and this must be complementary to the activities of the Ministry of Health."

He stressed that a close understanding and working relationship with the ministry is very important.

Dr. Hiddlestone also expressed appreciation of the ministry reference to UNRWA's services during the last World Health Assembly where the activities of the agency were under review.

He also expressed the agency's gratefulness for the way in which the ministry has assisted in the care of UNRWA patients.

"We believe that the time is ripe for realism in the funding of the hospital services, and we hope that the dialogue can lead to something that we as well you can afford, to the benefit of the people concerned," he said.

Dr. Hiddlestone said that under the WHO ordinance of the 29th

Health Assembly, UNRWA "became firmly associated as an agency with the eastern Mediterranean region."

Each member of the agency's directorate, he said, is a WHO employee "so in some ways we are welcoming the regional director (Dr. Gezairy) as our direct head."

Challenging task

Dr. Gezairy in his speech said: "In the meeting agenda including proposals for future activities, Dr. Hiddlestone said that it is quite a challenging task when we consider the changing scene in refugee camps and the subsequent change in health needs brought about by UNRWA's achievements."

Regarding the type of WHO assistance to UNRWA, Dr. Gezairy said: "The organisation provides technical supervision to the agency's health care programmes by assigning on loan five WHO staff members including the agency's director of health who also acts as the WHO representative."

Pointing out WHO work in the area, he said: "Two WHO staff members carried out an oral health study in Jordan, the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and submitted their report which, together with that on school health, were discussed in a special field health officers' meeting held in Larnaca, Cyprus on Oct. 26 - 28, 1982."

In Jordan, a WHO team on expanded programme on immunisation maternal and child health, visited a number of MCH centres in April 1982 and studied the maternal and child health activities, particularly immunisation coverage and the cold storage and handling of vaccines, Dr. Gezairy said.

A visit was also made to the West Bank and Gaza fields in June 1982 by a WHO consultant who continued the study started in 1981 on the "risk approach" in maternal and child health care, he said in conclusion.

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Faces of the same coin

THE LATEST news from Israel suggests that officials of the Israeli opposition Labour Party are pessimistic about the chances of forming a "national unity" government with the Likud bloc under the leadership of Foreign Minister Shamir. According to earlier reports though, both Shimon Peres, the chairman of the Labour Party, and Yitzhak Rabin, his arch-rival in the same movement, wanted to give Shamir a chance, but only if the latter agreed to certain guidelines and principles. Labour demanded that, in order to join a Shamir-led government, the Likud would have to bar Jewish settlement from "densely populated" Arab areas in the West Bank and Gaza; that Israel terminate its military presence in Lebanon; that the projected regime facilitate the resumption of the "autonomy" talks; and that an "entirely new social and economic policy" be pursued in the next stage.

Peres first needed to "clarify positions" with the other side before he agreed on opening formal talks on a "national unity" government. He also had to take into account the feelings of his partners in the Alignment, Mapam and the Citizens Rights Movement, who thought their coalition with the Labour Party, if not the party itself, would cease to exist if they all went in with Shamir, on the basis of Likud doctrines.

The point, however, is that the whole talk about "national unity" in Israel is almost useless. And the fact remains that Israel is so troubled by itself that no single bloc wants to preside over more dangerous deterioration, whether political, military or economic, in state affairs. In the words of one Labour member of Knesset: "... the Likud is planning to implement its policies, and I'm sure they will bring further calamities. No one ever regretted having tried to save the state... If the Likud will not accept (Labour policies) we will know we did all we could."

So, for us in the Arab World and indeed elsewhere, having heard the Labour Party's new platform for joining a Shamir-led government, what should we expect from the Israelis now? The answer of course is nothing. The internal situation in Israel is getting worse — and with it the Labour programme for the occupied territories and the Labour outlook on making peace with the Arabs.

Why should we care who wins the race there? Peres and Shamir are all the same.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan welcomes peace

JORDAN MONDAY welcomed the ceasefire agreement in Lebanon as did all the other Arab states. Prime Minister Mudar Badran stressed the role which Jordan played in bringing about an agreement between the rival groups, Jordan, in cooperation with Arab countries, did its best in arriving at the agreement which will stop all fighting and restore peace to Lebanon.

Arab countries' welcoming of the agreement reflects their keenness to preserve the unity of Lebanon and their true desire to see the combatants abandon their trenches to sit at the negotiating table and discuss ways of establishing peace in their country.

The Lebanese tragedy was triggered by attempts on the part of some groups to impose their hegemony on the other factions and communities and also it was due to the attempts of some parties to isolate Lebanon from the rest of the Arab World, so that Israel and other powers can impose their domination on the country.

We believe that the Lebanese people are now able to overcome the present difficult times and problems and work together towards building up a democratic country where equality and justice prevails. We are sure that the different parties of Lebanon have now come to the conclusion that all attempts to alienate Lebanon from the Arab Nation and link it with the interests of foreign powers will be futile.

Al Dustour: Lebanon faces a threat

RESPECT OF the ceasefire by Lebanon's factional groups should act as an incentive for embarking on steps leading to attaining political achievements that would give a firmer and more solid base for the ceasefire. The leaders of the various groups should immediately form military committees to police the ceasefire and ensure its validity for good.

This should go hand in hand with preparations for forming political committees that will be entrusted with preparing for a national dialogue to arrive at a final settlement. We call on all Lebanese groups to exercise utmost self-restraint and benefit from the current ceasefire.

We realise that the ceasefire agreement will remain fragile and the gunpowder might be lit again by Lebanon's enemies to trigger another round of fighting.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has made a statement in which he expressed his country's intention to maintain the presence of the Marines on Lebanese soil, and revealed that U.S. troops might even occupy new strategic positions in Lebanon indefinitely.

The leaders of the various factions in Lebanon should realise this threat and must act speedily to achieve a peaceful settlement and thus bid any foreign intervention in their country.

Sawt Al Shaab: Issues to be tackled

DESPITE THE numerous obstacles in the way of achieving peace in Lebanon, Arab mediation was able to end the fighting and achieve a ceasefire. Of course the capitals directly involved in behind-the-scenes negotiations were Damascus and Beirut, and of course Saudi Arabia played the major role in this affair.

But Amman along with other Arab capitals were also involved. Jordan has expressed willingness to take part in a mini summit to be held in Riyadh to draw up a final settlement in Lebanon and establish peace there. Other Arab states have also voiced their support for this idea.

Arab countries' success in achieving peace in Lebanon and restoring security and stability to that country ought to prompt Arab leaders to think about widening this circle of mediation and increasing their efforts towards solving inter-Arab differences and bringing about peace among Arab countries.

There are many issues to be tackled by Arab leaders, like the Iraq-Iran war and the status of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). There should be a solution to these questions and Arab leaders and mediators should start thinking about them now.

Syrian role decisive in Lebanese war, peace

By Dina Matar
 Reuter

DAMASCUS — Syria has served notice it will play a crucial role in forthcoming talks on the future of Lebanon now that the big guns outside Beirut are silent.

Diplomatic sources said there could be no political settlement in Lebanon without backing from Syria, which had a major hand with Saudi Arabia in engineering the ceasefire between rival Lebanese factions.

The ceasefire agreement was announced in Damascus and made no reference to U.S. mediation efforts. "This has proven to the United States that Syria holds the key to a settlement in Lebanon," a Western diplomat said. The first warning shots that the

inter-Lebanese dialogue to be held under terms of the ceasefire would not be easy were fired shortly after last night's ceasefire announcement.

Walid Junblatt, leader of the Syrian-backed Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party which has heavily involved in the fighting, said: "The political agreement might well be more difficult than the military conflict."

As Lebanon's problems moved to the negotiating table, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan submitted his resignation in what appeared to be a prelude to national reconciliation.

Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, however, asked him to stay on "until our new course becomes clear."

Throughout the tortuous ceasefire negotiations, Syria vetoed

Mr. Wazzan's participation, as well as that of parliamentary speaker Kamel Al Assad, in the political dialogue.

Instead, Lebanon agreed that former Prime Minister Saeb Salam and ex-Speaker Adel Ossiran should take part in the talks, which will be attended by Syria and Saudi Arabia.

Negotiations for a ceasefire were led by Saudi Prince Bandar bin Sultan, who routinely sounded out Syrian officials on points for an accord before consulting with the Lebanese government and Lebanese opposition leaders.

The diplomatic sources said Syria, which has an estimated 40,000 troops stationed in north and east Lebanon, played its cards well during the negotiations.

They said that without Syrian

support, the mainly Muslim Druze militia, headed by Mr. Junblatt, would not have been able to keep up the fight against the Lebanese army and their Falangist allies in mountains outside Beirut.

This support was believed to have been logistical and the sources noted that Syria repeatedly denied charges that it was involved directly in the fighting.

After the ceasefire announcement, Prince Bandar said: "The great results we have reached will be beginning of Arab solidarity which both Saudi Arabia and Syria are seeking."

The diplomatic sources said that Saudi Arabia, which has often mediated in inter-Arab disputes, was keen to end the fighting in Lebanon before an Arab summit meeting planned for November in Riyadh.

Another factor in Saudi Arabia's quiet diplomacy to end the fighting was a fear that the conflict might escalate and drive Syria further into "Moscow's lap," diplomatic sources said.

Under a 1980 friendship and cooperation treaty, the Soviet Union could give Damascus military support if Syria was attacked.

Syria, on the other hand, did not want to upset Saudi Arabia, its major financial backer, the sources said.

"Syria does not want to be the bad boy in Lebanon and by giving room for the Saudis, it has gained Saudi support," one diplomat said during the fighting.

Saudi Arabia was also concerned that the fighting could lead to partitioning of Lebanon, with Israel, the common foe, occupying the southern part of the country.

"There is either conciliation or partition," Prince Bandar said. In Kuwait, Acting Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Hussein told reporters that his country hoped the ceasefire would "restore normal life to a united and coherent Lebanon."

Egypt said it hoped the accord would be followed by other moves to restore peace to Lebanon.

The minister of state for foreign affairs, Boutros Ghali, said: "We warmly welcome the ceasefire in Lebanon as a first positive step which should be followed by other moves to restore national unity and bring about the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon."

Syria opposes a U.S.-sponsored agreement signed in May for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and says all Israeli troops must leave unconditionally.



Manchester: First to split atom, anti-nuclear vanguard

By Nicholas Phythian
 Reuter

MANCHESTER, England — The city where man first split the atom and opened the door to the nuclear age is in the vanguard of a campaign against nuclear weapons.

Today, as the superpowers squabble about curbing their awesome nuclear arsenals, the laboratory where physicist Ernest Rutherford split the atom in 1919 stands largely forgotten in a quiet corner of Manchester University.

But the city has not forgotten his legacy. Manchester's city and county councils are controlled by the opposition Labour Party, pledged to rid Britain of nuclear arms.

In 1980, the city council became the first of more than 150 British local councils to declare themselves nuclear free zones.

The county council followed suit in 1981 and erected nuclear-free-zone signs on main approach roads to the city.

Now the city plays a prominent part in a wider campaign against plans to deploy a new generation of U.S. missiles in Britain and elsewhere in Europe.

"We genuinely believe that nuclear arms are not in the interests of our city," City Councillor Bill Risby says.

"We can and must build a genuine nuclear-free zone in Manchester, in Britain, in Europe and eventually world-wide," he once wrote in a pamphlet calling for

nuclear disarmament.

In the past year, Britain's anti-nuclear campaigners have staged a number of spectacular protests in their fight against plans by the Western alliance to deploy 160 U.S. medium-range cruise nuclear missiles on British soil by the end of the year.

Britain agreed to take them under a 1979 decision by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) to base 572 cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe to counter Soviet SS-20 missiles.

Of the 160, 96 will be at Greenham Common, a U.S. airbase in southern England and the focus of the protest campaign.

Women protesters have camped outside the base since 1981. Last December, women from all over Britain joined them to form a 14-kilometre human chain around the airbase.

In April, some 40,000 protesters formed a kilometre human chain linking the airbase, a nearby nuclear arms factory and an atomic weapons research establishment.

The same month, protesters were dragged singing and chanting from the public gallery in parliament as politicians voted against a referendum on the missiles.

In June, police arrested more than 700 demonstrators during four days of protests aimed at closing Greenham Common to construction workers. It was the biggest mass arrest since 1,400 people were detained in 1960 at an

anti-nuclear rally in London.

But later that month, Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher won a second term of office inflicting a crushing defeat on Labour and its plans to rid Britain of nuclear arms.

Since then, the anti-nuclear movement has maintained a comparatively low profile but Britain has been pressing ahead with preparations for the missiles at Greenham Common.

Apart from Britain, West Germany and Italy have agreed to allow deployment. The Netherlands and Belgium are undecided.

But NATO has said it will shelve its plans if Moscow and Washington can agree at nuclear disarmament talks in Geneva.

The British government has now disbanded a special unit set up before the election to put the case for a nuclear deterrent.

But the British Anti-Nuclear Movement plans to renew the battle in earnest next month.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), the largest British peace group, is planning a major rally in London on Oct. 22 to mark United Nations disarmament week.

On Oct. 26, representatives from Manchester and the 150 other nuclear-free-zone authorities are scheduled to meet in London to discuss ways of opposing the government's civil defence plans, which parliament is expected to discuss that day.



Next year, Manchester will take its own campaign a stage further when it plays host to an international conference of nuclear-free zone local authorities.

Rutherford, a New Zealander, left Manchester for Cambridge University soon after splitting the atom and long before the significance of his work emerged.

For him the experiment was mainly a realisation of the centuries-old dream of alchemists, the transmutation of one substance into another — in this case Nitrogen into Oxygen.

As late as 1933, the man some called the father of nuclear physics told fellow scientists: "Anyone who expects a source of power from the transformation of the atom is talking moonshine."

In the red-bricked building where he worked, his laboratory now serves as a study-cum-store room for a psychology professor.

But the bench where he split the atom still stands at the back of the room, its significance recalled by the modest plaque and occasional tests for lingering traces of radioactivity.

Arms control talks suffer sting of post-airliner chill

By Jeffrey Antevil
 Reuter

WASHINGTON — The shooting down of a South Korean airliner by a Soviet fighter has plunged U.S.-Soviet relations into a deeper chill and prospects of high-level arms control talks are gloomy.

President Ronald Reagan, who had been showing signs of relaxing his earlier harsh stand of condemning Moscow as "the focus of evil in the world," has now apparently opted for confrontation in most areas of relations.

But Moscow and Washington are increasingly at odds in other key areas as well, including Lebanon and Central America.

Even the vital subject of nuclear arms control, which Mr. Reagan has specifically exempted from the general freeze on relations, is clearly feeling the chill from the airliner incident.

U.S. officials told Reuters that breakthroughs in separate talks in Geneva on strategic and medium-range weapons would almost certainly require high-level contacts and probably a summit meeting between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Yuri Andropov.

But a tentative scenario in which Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko would hold three rounds of discussions in Madrid and New York this month, followed by a Reagan-Gromyko meeting and possibly a summit early next year, was another casualty of the airliner.

The Madrid meeting early this month was brief and bitter, focusing exclusively on that incident.

The New York talks were scrapped when Mr. Gromyko called off his visit to the U.N. General Assembly session, which he has attended for more than 20 years, after Washington refused to let his Soviet airliner land at a civilian airport.

In addition to gloomy prospects for high-level arms talks, the atmosphere has been chilled by unusually tough rhetorical exchanges and at least a temporary hold in most other areas of relations.

An exception is U.S. grain sales to Moscow, which are popular with American farmers and thus a politically sensitive area for Mr. Reagan just over a year before the 1984 elections.

Mr. Reagan and his top aides have repeatedly resorted to rhetoric accusing Moscow of "murdering" and "massacring" the Korean airliner victims.

Vice President George Bush, in a speech reminiscent of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' talk of rolling back Communism in Eastern Europe in the 1950s, sought in Vienna this week to encourage East European countries to embark on reforms and to open new ties with the West.

Mr. Bush promised political and economic support for relatively "independent" Communist countries such as Hungary and Romania and a cold shoulder for "pro-Soviet" governments in Poland, East Germany and elsewhere.

His speech was widely interpreted in Austria as a throwback to the U.S.-Soviet cold war.

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shultz also went out of their way this week to blame Moscow for the current fighting in Lebanon, claiming the Kremlin is arming and encouraging Syria to foment renewed sectarian fighting there.

In addition, the administration kept up the pressure over Central America, which a high Pentagon official identified as an area of confrontation between U.S. allies and what he called "Soviet bloc" recruits — Cuba and Nicaragua.

This tough talk has been balanced in part by reaffirmations of the importance of the administration still attaches to seeking agreements with Moscow, especially in arms control.

Mr. Shultz, while assailing alleged Soviet human rights violations at the European Security Conference in Madrid this month, called for a serious dialogue designed to reach "practical agreements that push back the spectre of major conflict."

And Mr. Reagan, disclosing this week that he was making new proposals intended to facilitate an accord on medium-range missiles in Europe, said: "The time has come for the Soviets to show the world they are serious about peace and good will."

Diplomatic analysts said Mr. Reagan may show which way he is leaning when he delivers what the White House says will be a major speech on Monday to the U.N. General Assembly.

If he stresses efforts to break the deadlock on arms control, they said, there may be hope for restoring at least a semblance of civilised discourse with Moscow by the end of the year, when NATO is due to start deploying new U.S. missiles in Western Europe.

But if he keeps hanging on to harsh criticism over the airliner incident, prospects for movement in that direction before next year's presidential election will look gloomier than ever.

Sand and civil war agonies in Chad

WHATEVER became of Chad?

The former republic of sand and savannah in the heart of northern Africa which bestrode the headlines throughout our "silly season" seems to have been elbowed out of the limelight by even nastier events elsewhere.

The miniature desert war of August in which brigades took the role of armies (but no less vicious for that) is now heavily overshadowed by the horrors of Lebanon in September: the siege of Faya-Largeau has in every scene been overtaken by the siege of Souk Al Gharb.

In fact these two manifestations of "the agony of small nations" have quite a lot in common, involving as they both do uncontrollable internal strife, massive foreign intervention, florid rhetoric, and super-power rivalry in the background.

A particular factor the two crises share is the deep military and political involvement of France: but whereas in Lebanon the French role is very much secondary to that of the Americans,

in Chad it is the other way about.

The arrival and rapid strategic deployment of a French brigade in Chad last month appears to have stabilised the situation, at least in so far as the fighting has died down (and with it the de facto partition of the country roughly along the line between the arid, Muslim North and the non-Muslim South which the French used to call "Tchad utile" in their colonial days).

The rebels of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei backed by the Libyans, control the North while the French "protect" the South.

President Hissene Habre has failed to move the French to attack the insurgents and Mr. Goukouni has been similarly unsuccessful with the Libyans. The ensuing stalemate is not stability but a freeze.

That it is a freeze which cannot last is shown by the sudden reappearance of Mr. Goukouni in the guise of a dove. He now offers direct talks with his arch-enemy Mr. Habre and even participation with him in a new government of national unity, even though this signally failed the last time they tried it. He is prepared not only to let the French stay on but also to step down as head of his "government in exile" for the sake of peace.

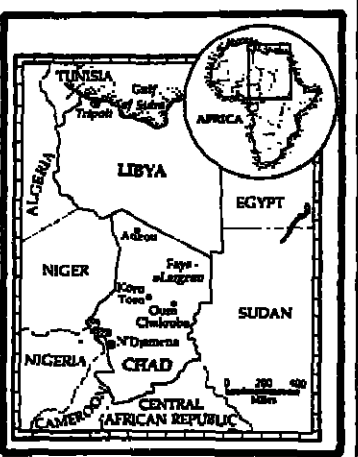
In the background contacts continue among the French, the Libyans and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

The stage is now set for an OAU intervention more effective than their previous one a couple of years ago, with the French, the Libyans, Mr. Goukouni and the OAU itself all in favour, with or without reservations. Mr. Habre, who has shown some talent for sound administration but who has irritated his French protectors with his all-or-nothing approach, will find this very hard to resist.

The belated intrusion of relative reasonableness is no accident. The annual Franco-African summit starts on Oct. 2, an increasingly important forum for Franco-phone states to which most other African countries send observers

and at which OAU disputes can be glossed over. It is there that President Mitterrand will hope to reap his reward for his reluctant but effective intervention.

Mr. Habre as principal beneficiary would be unwise to antagonise the French further at a meeting which might just bring peace (and quiet) to his country. — The Guardian



مكة من لاصل

U.S. Jewish groups increase campaign donations, focus them on key legislators

By John J. Fialka

WASHINGTON — American Jews have organized new financial muscle to back up their already powerful lobby for aid to Israel.

During the last congressional election, Jews used over 30 separate political-action committees to give favored candidates \$1.67 million, more than in any prior election. They focused heavily on members of committees that approve U.S. aid to the Middle East.

According to an analysis of records of the Federal Election Commission, the combined contribution of these groups — many of which gave to the same candidates — now rivals the sums dispatched by Washington's largest lobbies, such as doctors, realtors, auto workers and milk producers.

Several ranking congressmen — most of whom wouldn't comment on the record for this story — say they believe the political effect of Jewish PAC money is greater than that of other major lobbies because it is skillfully focused on one foreign-policy issue. "You are dealing with a most sophisticated organization," says one legislator.

The 1982 tally

During the 1981-82 congressional season, Jewish political-action committees:

— Pumped \$104,325 into an obscure House race in downstate Illinois, money that helped defeat veteran Republican Rep. Paul Findley.

— Spent \$355,550 to help elect or defeat members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Appropriations Committee's Foreign Operations Subcommittee, panels that recently added more than \$100 million to the Reagan administration's request for aid to Israel.

— Contributed \$78,807 to help elect a Democratic senator from Maine, George Mitchell, and gave \$232,039 to six members of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

— Were joined by a new mega-PAC, National Pac, which raised over \$1 million in its first year of operation and which has policy of giving \$5,000 apiece to friends of Israel in Congress. Nat-

ional Pac, along with other newly organized Jewish PACs, plans to expand its activity in the 1984 election.

Unilluminating titles

The effects and often the identities of the Jewish PACs — many of them newcomers to the political scene — are frequently obscured by opaque titles such as the Committee for 18, Arizona Politically Interested Citizens, Government Action Committee, and the Joint Action Committee for Political Affairs.

There is a good reason for this, according to Norman Silverman, a founder of the Denver-based Committee for 18. At an organizational meeting in 1981, the matter of choosing a name for the group became "an emotional issue," Mr. Silverman says. "Some of us, primarily younger members, felt we wanted a name that would identify us as a Jewish-American political-action committee. Others said they didn't want to be a member if we did that." The number 18, a numerical symbol for the Hebrew word "life," was selected as a compromise, he explains.

"No one is trying to hide anything," insists Mark Siegel, a Carter White House aide who now is the director of a Jewish group called the National Bipartisan Political Action Committee. He says the committee names were chosen because of a concern in the Jewish community that "there are those in the political process who would use the percentage of Jewish money (in a given race) as a negative."

Focus on Senate

His PAC was formed in 1978 by 30 Jewish backers of Sen. Henry Jackson's presidential campaign. Mr. Siegel says the prime objective of the Jewish PACs is the Senate because it is the "real battle-ground" of foreign-policy issues. Other PAC leaders tend to agree.

According to Federal Election Commission, 31 Jewish PACs that were active in the 1981-82 congressional campaigns contributed a total of \$1,576,016. Of that, \$966,695, or 58 per cent, went to Senate races. And 74 per cent of

the money was bet on incumbents like Sen. Mitchell, who drew money from 28 of the groups — all of them based outside of Maine.

"You are talking about a pretty tight network," grumbles a campaign aide to former Rep. David Emery, who lost to Sen. Mitchell. "The word is out pretty much on who they're for and who they're against, and you can't change it."

That network is heavily dedicated to getting Congress to vote maximum amounts of U.S. aid to Israel, and the record shows impressive success. Israel is expected to receive nearly \$2.6 billion in economic and military assistance in the fiscal year starting Oct. 1. In both categories, it is the largest recipient of U.S. aid. And Israel gets roughly 20 per cent of all the assistance the U.S. gives to nations abroad.

To help increase their clout, the Jewish PACs work closely together. Their relationships often involve the activities of officials and former officials of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), a Washington-based lobby.

For example, when Mr. Siegel served as liaison to the Jewish community for the Carter White House, he often dealt with Morris Amitay, then the executive director of AIPAC, and Mr. Amitay's political director, Richard Altman.

Mr. Siegel left the White House to form his political-action committee. Mr. Amitay left AIPAC to form the Washington Political Action Committee (\$89,075 to 138 candidates). Mr. Altman left AIPAC to become the Washington operative for the largest Jewish PAC of all: National Pac, which raised \$1.04 million last year and spent \$547,500 on 109 candidates.

Mr. Altman refers all requests for information about his new job to the chairman of National Pac, Marvin Josephson. Mr. Josephson also heads International Creative Management, one of the nation's largest theatrical and literary talent agencies.

"We do not take guidance from anyone," Mr. Josephson asserts. While many contributors to National Pac are from the entertainment industry and most are Jewish, he says National Pac made an attempt at "ecumenical fund-

raising" last year, using newspaper ads stressing Israel's military contributions to U.S. interests in the Middle East.

Criteria for donations

Mr. Josephson says decisions to spend National Pac's money are made by a six-member board consisting of himself; Barry Dillar, the chairman of Paramount Pictures Corp.; George Klein, a New York City developer; Martin Peretz, the editor in chief of the New Republic; James Wolfensohn, a New York investment banker; and Rita Hauser, a New York lawyer.

Some leaders of Jewish PACs won't say how they decide to give money, but others are quite open about it. "We focus on non-California races," says Melvin Swig, a San Francisco developer who is the chairman of the Bay Area Citizens Political Action Committee. "There are enough people locally who do enough for their constituency. We look for areas that have less Jewish visibility than others, places where there are fewer Jews."

J. Livingston Kosberg, a Houston banker and the treasurer of Congressional Action Committee of Texas, says, "we are interested in putting sufficient money into races we perceive as being close races — where we perceive that our decisions will be effective."

The one 1982 race that seems to have met every group's criteria was the first bid for Congress by Richard Durbin, a Catholic lawyer running for the Democrats in the congressional district that includes Springfield, Illinois. Mr. Durbin, now Rep. Durbin, received \$104,325 from all 31 Jewish PACs.

That may seem odd because the district has fewer than 2,000 Jewish voters. Moreover, according to Rep. Durbin, issues involving the Middle East or Israel never came up during his campaign against Rep. Findley.

To Jewish PAC leaders, however, former Rep. Findley was an inviting political target. He was the ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee that authorizes aid to Israel. Over the years, he had become a critic of Israel and was advocating a more evenhanded approach to Arab nations and esp-

ecially to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Some people went to great effort to defeat Mr. Findley. Robert Asher of Highland Park, Ill., was the treasurer of Citizens Concerned for the National Interest (\$85,800 to 29 candidates) which raised money from the Jewish community in the fashionable North Shore suburbs of Chicago and contributed \$5,000 to Mr. Durbin.

Mr. Asher also headed the National Committee to Elect Dick Durbin, which solicited individual donations from Jewish leaders across the country with a letter saying: "This year we have the best chance we will ever have to remove this dangerous enemy of Israel from Congress..."

Barbara Anne Weinberg, a Beverly Hills housewife, helped form the Citizens Organized Political Action Committee, a Los Angeles-based PAC (\$137,000 to 30 candidates) that gave \$5,000 to Mr. Durbin. According to election-commission records, Mrs. Weinberg and her husband, Lawrence Weinberg, gave \$20,000 to the PAC in 1981-82 and gave an additional \$2,000 to Mr. Durbin.

Omen for Percy?

Both Mr. Findley and Rep. Durbin say they believe that the Jewish money may have made the difference in their closely fought contest, during which each spent over \$700,000.

What happened to Mr. Findley, according to several people involved in the operation of the Jewish PACs, may be a preview of the problems in store for Republican Sen. Charles Percy of Illinois, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in his 1984 reelection bid. Sen. Percy has offended some Jewish groups for taking what they consider a too-friendly approach to Arab interests.

The chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Democratic Rep. Clement Zablocki of Wisconsin, also felt some heat last year. Running in his first seriously contested race in 30 years, Rep. Zablocki beat back a challenge by a state senator, Lynn

Adelman, who received \$9,350 from 13 Jewish PACs. Mr. Adelman is Jewish.

Adelman's election not only means a friend of Israel in Congress, but also that the House Foreign Relations Committee will have a friend of Israel as its new chairman," said a letter soliciting funds for Mr. Adelman among the Jewish community in Milwaukee.

The second "Friend of Israel" mentioned in the letter is Rep. Dante Fascell of Florida, the second-ranking Democrat on the committee. Rep. Fascell received \$43,250 from 22 Jewish PACs and says the money helped him survive a stiff challenge from a former television newsmen in his district, which includes parts of Miami.

"The whole trouble with campaign finances is the hue and cry that you've been bought," complains Rep. Fascell, who says he has supported aid to Israel for many years and that he solicited donations from Jewish PACs. "If you need the money, are you going to get it from your enemy? No, you're going to get it from your friends."

Meanwhile, Democratic Rep. Clarence Long, the chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, was receiving \$31,250 from 18 Jewish groups to help win his race in the suburbs of Baltimore.

"You take the doctors, the auto workers, they have fights all over the hill," notes one member. "This money is zeroing in on a very narrow band. That's what gives them the power." "There is no question that the Findley-Durbin race was intimidating," says Democratic Rep. Mervyn Dymally of California, who often grumbles during subcommittee sessions that aid to Israel is too high, especially after Israel's military adventures in Lebanon.

During one recent session, he explained that while he sometimes complains, in the end he always votes for more aid to Israel. "Not once. I told them, have I ever strayed from the cause."

"And they said, 'Well, you abstained once.' That's how good they are." — The Wall Street Journal.

PACs played pivotal role in 1982 general elections

WASHINGTON — The Federal Election Commission (FEC) recently released its interim report on the 1981-82 election cycle. The report demonstrated what politicians and journalists alike have been saying since the November elections: Political Action Committees (PACs) now play a pivotal role in the electoral process. Total PAC contributions to congressional candidates rose from \$55.3 million in 1980 to \$87.3 million in 1982 — an increase of more than 57 per cent.

This increase reflects an eight-year pattern of growth in PAC contributions; since 1974 such contributions have risen over 650 per cent. The average winning candidate spent \$265,000 to capture a seat in the House of Representatives in 1982 — an increase of approximately 49 per cent from 1980. Of this total, slightly more than 34 per cent of these campaign funds were raised from PACs; this was an increase from 31 per cent in 1980 and only 26 per cent in 1976.

On the average, winning candidates in the 1982 Senate races spent approximately \$2,000,000 — this was an increase of 71 per cent from 1980 levels. Interestingly, winning Senate candidates received only 22 per cent of their campaign funds from PACs — a slight drop from the 1980 level of 24 per cent, although it was still higher than the 15 per cent that prevailed in 1976.

As in past years, labor PACs had the most partisan contribution pattern, with 44 per cent going to Democratic candidates and only 6 per cent to Republicans. Corporate PACs were somewhat more balanced, giving 66 per cent of their contributions to Republicans and 34 per cent to Democrats.

Non-connected PACs, which had strongly favored Republicans in the previous cycle (by a 69-30 per cent margin) now virtually split their contributions — giving 51 per cent to Democratic candidates and 49 per cent to Republicans. Much, although not all, of this shift can be attributed to the rapid formation of staunchly Democratic pro-Israel PACs (which are a part of the non-connected category) following the 1980 election.

The National PAC (NATPAC) is the most important example of this trend. Formed in early 1982, NATPAC raised more than \$1,000,000 during the year and contributed a total of \$542,500 to 109 candidates (all but one received \$5,000). Of these can-

didates, 81 were Democrats while only 28 were Republicans. In 1982, NATPAC contributed more money to House and Senate candidates than any other non-connected PAC.

The Middle East Policy and Research Corporation (MEPARC), a research subsidiary of the National Association of Arab Americans, examined PAC contributions to members of the four subcommittees most involved with Middle East issues: 1) the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs; 2) the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations; 3) the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East; and 4) the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations.

The growing importance, both monetarily and numerically, of pro-Israel PACs is clearly shown in the PAC receipts of Clarence D. Long (D), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. Mr. Long's 1980 receipts from pro-Israel PACs amounted to 13 per cent of his PAC receipts. By 1982, however, this percentage had skyrocketed to slightly more than 42 per cent of his PAC receipts (almost exactly \$30,000). This increase is due, not to a change in Mr. Long's voting record as he has always been a strong supporter of Israel, but rather to a proliferation of pro-Israel PACs between 1980 and 1982. Four other members of Mr. Long's subcommittee — including Mr. Kemp, who is the ranking minority member — received more than 7 per cent (over three times the average) of their PAC receipts from pro-Israel PACs.

The important role played by PACs during the 1982 elections should not be understated. Congressional candidates now rely on PACs for a significant portion of their campaign funds, a fact which is not likely to change in the near future. Nonconnected PACs have grown the fastest since the 1980 elections. In particular, pro-Israel PACs have increased by more than 440 per cent. On the other hand, corporate PACs — although they grew in absolute dollar terms — account for a smaller percentage of the overall 1982 PAC total than they did in 1980. The group of MEPARC researched PACs grew by only 4.3 per cent between 1980-82. — Focus, the bulletin of National Association of Arab-Americans.

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SPORTS

Jordan junior tennis team off to Morocco

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF) Sunday sent a juniors tennis delegation to take part in the Arab juniors tennis tournament now taking place in Morocco. The tournament started Monday and will run till Thursday in Morocco's capital Casablanca, each Arab delegation consists of four players.

Maureen Stalla, the National tennis coach of the JTF told the Jordan Times that the Jordanian delegation to Morocco consisted of Ziad Dajani 15, Iyad Shehadeh 17, Maher Tal 15, Khalidoun Abdel Hadi 16, accompanied by Talal Maher from the federation. Mrs. Stalla said that the Jordanian team should take third or fourth position in the tournament after Morocco and Tunisia who have the best two junior teams.

Rami Farraj who is fourth on the national ladder and Nasser Kamal 12th were considered to participate in the tournament but could not make it because they had to attend school, she added.

10 teams from 10 Arab countries are participating in this tournament representing Morocco, Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Sudan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Tunisia and a Palestinian team has been put up by Morocco as it is customary in every Arab tournament.

Asked about the best Jordanian tennis player, Mrs. Stalla said that Hani Al Ali 19 on the top of the Jordanian national ladder is the best player we have who was supposed to participate in last year's Arab juniors tournament in Morocco — that when he was 18 but the tournament was cancelled due to the Lebanese tragic situation. A senior tennis tournament is scheduled to be held in Syria in

October, in which two Jordanian players will be participating. Mrs. Stalla who has been coaching at the JTF since it was established in 1980, said that the two players will be chosen by the federation from the national ladder.

There are 18 Jordanian players on the national ladder she explained. Our number 1 is Hani Al Ali, 2. Abdullah Khalil, 3. Ahmad Sabbah, 4. Rami Farraj, 5. Zeyad Dajani, 6. Mohammad Sha'aban, 7. Talal Maher, 8. Hassan Saudi, 9. Mohammad Batkhi, 10. Mohammad Adwan, 11. Iyad Shehadeh, 12. Nasser Kamal, 13. Nasri Atallah, 14. Cusai Mahasneh, 15. Samir Rifai, 16. Khalidoun Abdel Hadi, 17. Tareq Fuyad, 18. Nasser Mirza. Every Jordanian tennis player is eligible to join the national ladder.

Talking about rules and regulations governing the Jordan tennis team national ladder Mrs. Stalla explained: "A player or team may advance by challenging and defeating a player or team no higher than three places. If a player is challenged, he must accept the challenge even if he has challenged above; if the defending player moves out of range due to a victory he still must play a pre-arranged match."

"Winners assume the position of the challenged; everyone thus drops one place. Challenge matches must be played within 10 days of the challenge. The player may challenge once in 10 days;

and can be challenged once in 10 days."

Results of the matches must be reported to the coach (Maureen Stalla) giving date and score and the coach will make changes in the ladder. The loser of the challenge if he was the challenger, cannot challenge the winner for 20 days.

"If a player is injured or on holiday for a period less than seven days, those days are not counted in the 10. The same goes for rain, but if a player is injured or on holiday for more than seven days, he must notify the coach who will freeze his name."

Matches will be played as follows: Each challenge will be 2 out of 3 sets and players must agree on time and place. A match default will be called if a challenge is not played in 10 days and the challenger is the one who supplies the balls.

Mrs. Stalla has already about 100 children registered for the juniors training programme which starts on Oct. 1. Mr. Alastair McNeill is going to be assistant coach in this programme.

Mrs. Stalla was a California tennis tournament champion in her youth, married and describes her husband as one of her top students who also helps her teaching. Training is free at the federation courts in the Hussein Sport City; anybody can join and learn the sport. Tennis is a growing sport in Jordan she said, and the standard of players is rapidly improving.

Australia ends U.S. 132-year monopoly of America's Cup

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (R) — Australians rejoiced and Americans drowned their sorrows into the early hours of Tuesday morning after the 1983 America's Cup sailing cup came to a dramatic climax here on Monday evening.

Thousands of people jammed the waterfront restaurants and taverns of this historic port city to toast Australia II's victory over Liberty, the defending U.S. yacht, in the final race of the best-of-seven series.

The race, which gave the Australians a 4-3 series win from a 3-1 deficit, lived up to its billing of "race of the century" with Australia II retrieving a deficit of nearly a minute to finish 41 seconds ahead and end the United States' 132-year hold on the trophy for 12-metre yachts.

As Australians paraded along Newport's cobblestone waterfront streets through the night, it was announced that Prime Minister Robert Hawke had declared Tuesday a national holiday in Australia in celebration of the famous victory.

Earlier in the evening a vast crowd gave the Australian crew a thunderous reception as their white-hulled yacht wended its way through hundreds of pleasure craft to reach its berth, more than 2½ hours after the race ended.

After the throng alongside Australia II's dock had chanted "let's

see the keel" again and again, Alan Bond, head of the Australia II syndicate, ordered the mystery keel unveiled.

The radical and controversial keel had been kept under wraps when the yacht was out of the water but its unveiling was something of an anti-climax since a Toronto newspaper on Monday published a photograph of the keel taken by two frogmen last month. The photograph was circulated worldwide.

The keel, believed responsible for Australia II's remarkable speed and manoeuvrability, is bulb-shaped with two delta-type blue wings.

Still unresolved is how the 27-inch (68-cm), 8½-pound (3.8-kg) silver cup, which has been fastened to a trophy table at the New York Yacht Club's Manhattan headquarters for almost a century, will be transferred to Perth, Western Australia, home of the winning syndicate.

But that seemed to be of little concern in the aftermath of Australia II's victory in the deciding race on Rhode Island Sound.

Asked whether he planned to change the name of the competition as a result of Australia II's victory, Bond said: "It would be a great break in tradition if it were not called the America's Cup."

"I never saw a country so united as Australia was behind this eff-

ort," said Bond, who had won only two of 18 races in four previous Cup challenges. "I believe that this series has brought the Peoples of Australia and America closer together."

To John Bertrand, the soft-spoken skipper of Australia II, the victory represented the "fulfilment of a dream."

"It is the greatest day of my life," Bertrand said. "It is a dream for me and for my family. I feel very humble. We had to come from very low odds to win."

Except for a brief spell on the opening leg, Liberty led for the first 18 miles of Monday's race, staged in light winds and calm seas.

But on the fifth leg of the six-leg race Australia II latched onto a wind shift about a mile from the mark, went past Liberty and held the lead the rest of the way although the American yacht almost caught its rival early on the final windward leg.

"We were able to get two wind shifts (on the fifth leg), while Liberty did not," Bertrand said.

Liberty skipper Dennis Conner offered no excuses. "We tried to jibe when the wind shifted," said Conner, who skipped Liberty to victory over Australia II's predecessor, Australia, in 1980, "but they sailed lower and faster. They had the better boat."

Liberty won the first two races, during which Australia II was beset by equipment problems.

After the challenger won the third race, Liberty won the fourth to move within one victory of accomplishing the 25th consecutive successful U.S. defence of the Cup.

But Australia II recovered to win the fifth and sixth races and force the first seventh-race showdown in Cup history.

In the climactic race, Liberty crossed the starting line eight seconds in front of Australia II. The lead switched hands twice during the first leg, and Liberty led by as much as 57 seconds two-thirds of the way through the race.

But then, in the most critical manoeuvre of the race, Australia II veered off to the right about a mile from the fifth mark and caught a wind shift while Liberty was going in the opposite direction.

Pakistani polo team loses again

AMMAN (J.T.) — The visiting Pakistani polo team was again defeated Tuesday by the national Jordanian polo team led by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The match ended 6-4 in Jordan's favour with Prince Hassan scoring 4 of the 6 Jordanian goals. The visitors were beaten 5-4 on Monday.

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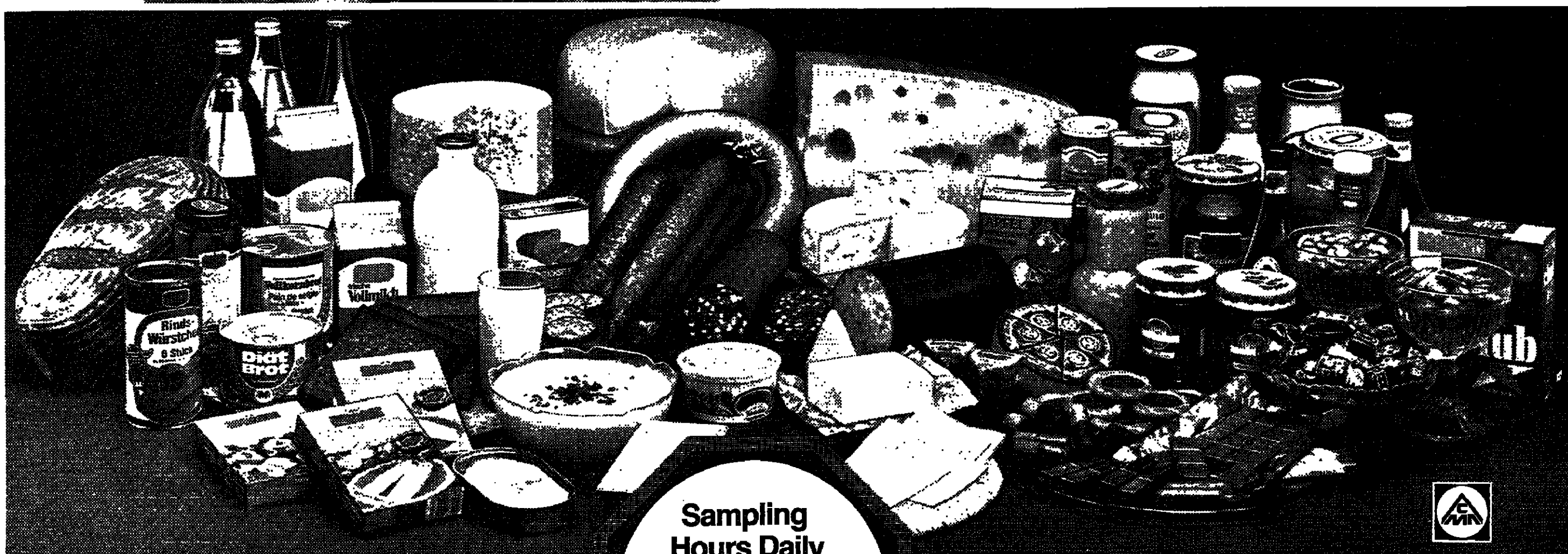
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Major U.S. firm files for voluntary reform

NEW YORK (R) — The Baldwin-United Corporation, a major insurance and financial services company, said it had filed in a United States district court Monday for voluntary reorganization under the federal bankruptcy code.

Earlier Monday, at least two of the company's creditors filed bankruptcy petitions against the company, a court official said.

The company has been trying to keep its creditors, whom it owes nearly \$1 billion, from filing for bankruptcy against it and on several occasions has won extensions of loan agreements. The latest extension was due to run out in the next few weeks.

Baldwin-United was a simple manufacturer of pianos until 1968, when it began a major series of acquisitions, mainly in the financial services area.

The company's trouble with its creditors started last year after it purchased MGIC Investment, the largest U.S. insurer of home mortgages, for \$1.2 billion.

The purchase increased Baldwin-United's short-term debt to over \$900 million and the company was forced to negotiate a standstill agreement on repayments and interest payments on more than \$600 million of that debt.

The company, which has reported massive losses from its operations this year, last week said it would attempt to sell MGIC Investment.

Up to that point, Baldwin-United had said it planned to retain MGIC and make it the core of a reorganized company.

Word of Baldwin-United's financial difficulties was devastating to its main cash-producing product, single premium deferred annuities, which are purchased by customers with one payment and then earn tax-exempt interest until the holders begin to draw payments.

Last year, these annuities produced \$1.6 billion of Baldwin-United's income of \$3.6 billion, but as word of trouble spread many insurance brokers refused to sell the annuities.

Bank scandal rocks S. Korea

SEOUL (R) — Prosecutors said Tuesday they were questioning several officials of a South Korean bank in connection with a 167 billion won (\$210 million) swindle.

The Choheung Bank, one of five Korean city banks, said Monday it had sacked 11 bank officials after they were found to have collaborated in illegally issuing promissory notes.

It said about 47 billion won (about \$60 million) worth of notes had been issued.

The rest were still in circulation and they would be honoured by the bank even though they had been issued illegally.

Last month, about 20 people, including a former government minister, eight government officials and four officials of another city bank, Commercial Bank of Korea, were arrested and charged in a similar case of irregularities involving millions of dollars.

Kuwait Investment Office boosts stake in Gerrard and National

LONDON (R) — The Kuwait Investment Office said Tuesday it had increased its shareholding in the London discount house Gerrard and National to just over five per cent.

In a further step in diversification of its investments, the office, a department of the Kuwaiti finance ministry, said it had bought a further 230,000 shares in Gerrard and National.

London stock exchange rules require disclosure of all shareholdings in quoted companies exceeding five per cent.

The investment office gave no details of the cost of acquiring the latest shares or its earlier purchases.

But Gerrard and National's London stock market closing price Monday of £2.18 (\$3.31) puts a value of about £3.3 million (\$5 million) on its 5.1 per cent share in the discount house's issued capital.

Gerrard and National is one of 12 discount houses in London which specialise in dealings in the domestic money market, treasury bills and bills of exchange.

Kuwait has been by far the most adventurous of the Arab oil exporting countries in placing its oil revenue in a wide range of investments abroad, and the investment office has acquired an array of interests in the British financial sector including insurance companies, property firms and investment trusts.

Israeli debt rises to \$21.5b

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's foreign debt rose by 14.5 per cent in the past year to total \$21.5 billion at the end of June, the Bank of Israel has announced.

This represents one of the highest per capita foreign debts in the world, \$5,000 for every Israeli.

Releasing the figures Monday, the bank said Israel would have to pay \$2.5 billion in long and medium-term foreign loan and interest payments and \$2.8 billion for short-term loans in the coming year.

Israel's annual budget is \$24 billion.

Israel's foreign debt rose from \$18.7 billion in June, 1982, to \$20.9 billion at the end of the year.

In the first six months of 1983, it soared by a further \$550 million.

Israel's Finance Minister Yoram Aridor met U.S. officials in Washington Monday for preliminary talks on U.S. aid to Israel in 1985.

Israeli press reports said it appeared the U.S. would give Israel less military aid in 1985 but would increase the ratio of grant to loan in the package.

In 1984 the United States is to give Israel \$1.7 billion in military aid, half of it in grants, plus \$900 million in civil assistance.

Japan to ban dock, robot exports to USSR

TOKYO (R) — Japan is planning to ban exports of floating docks and industrial robots to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe later this year, government sources said Tuesday.

The international trade and industry ministry was expected to revise legislation covering export trade by late November.

The Paris-based Cocom Group, which tries to control Western trade with the Soviet bloc, recently agreed to add floating docks and robots to its list of restricted items, the sources said.

The Japanese government was criticised by Washington in 1978 for permitting a Japanese company to sell an 80,000-ton capacity floating dock to the Soviet Union. It is used for repair work on ships of the Soviet Pacific fleet, based at Vladivostok, according to military sources.

Hong Kong to rescue bank

HONG KONG (R) — The Hong Kong government said it had passed an emergency law Tuesday night to acquire a local bank which was unable to meet its commitments.

The government called the colony's legislative council into a special session to pass a bill enabling it to acquire the Hang Lung Bank, which was unable to meet commitments to its clearing bank.

Financial Secretary John Bremidge told the council the government had decided to acquire Hang Lung after the clearing bank, the Chartered Bank, refused Tuesday to cover Hang Lung's commitments.

The clearing bank had told the banking commission it would no longer cover the \$0 million Hong Kong dollars (\$6 million) overdraft on Hang Lung's clearing account.

Sir John said it was unacceptable for the government to allow the bank to fail.

Firm government action was needed and the only satisfactory course for the government was to take over Hang Lung to protect depositors and maintain confidence in Hong Kong's banking system, he said.

British trade swings into surplus

LONDON (R) — Britain's overall trading position swung from deficit into surplus last month, the government announced Monday.

The current account balance of payments showed a surplus of £22 million (\$33 million) in August after a £190 million (\$286 million) deficit in July, the department of trade and industry said.

But analysts said Britain's trading performance still fell short of the government's hopes.

The latest figures mean a total surplus of just £298 million (\$448 million) so far this year compared with a government forecast that there would be a £1.5 billion (\$2.25 billion) surplus in 1983.

Trade in goods showed a deficit last month, with imports outstripping exports by £138 million (\$208 million), but that was more than outweighed by "invisible earnings" of £160 million (\$241 million) from services such as shipping and banking.

Meanwhile, the British government made a windfall profit of almost £40 million (\$60 million) from the sale of part of its stake in British Petroleum (B.P.) Monday, when the share price was fixed higher than expected.

The Bank of England, Britain's central bank and the government's agents in the sale, said the shares would be sold at 435

pence each, earning the government £565.5 million (\$848 million).

The target price, underwritten by the financial institutions, was \$526.5 million (\$791 million).

The government decided to sell part of its holding in B.P., one of the world's largest oil companies and a major producer of Britain's North Sea oil, to cut back state borrowing.

The sale by tender, which was heavily oversubscribed, cuts the government stake in B.P. from 39 to 32 per cent.

Brokers singled out B.P. plans to drill for oil off China and in Alaska, as reason for investors' interest.

A third of the shares went to small investors.

Peru to sign rescheduling accord with Soviet Union

LIMA (R) — Peru announced Monday it would sign an agreement soon to reschedule nearly \$400 million of its foreign debt to the Soviet Union, successfully completing its efforts to reschedule over a third of a \$11.6 billion foreign debt this year.

Prime Minister Fernando Belaúnde told reporters that the accord, based on a tentative agreement negotiated last week in Moscow, would be signed next month.

Peru owes the Soviet Union nearly \$1 billion, most of it contracted in the 1970s to buy Soviet military equipment, he said.

Under the agreement, Peru would repay part of the debt by shipping \$8 million worth of non-ferrous minerals, textiles and other goods each month to the Soviet Union, he said.

He gave no more details of the accord, which follows Peru's agreements to reschedule or roll over \$2.4 billion owed to Western governments.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares closed lower following Monday's easier trend, although selected leaders moved slightly above the lows in late trading, dealers said.

ICI for example closed down 2p at 526 after a low of 522, while BTR was down 8p at 544 after 552. Most of the falls occurred in early trading and the rest of the day was dull and featureless, dealers added. Hong Kong stocks ended lower as early gains were reversed on news the Hong Kong government is to acquire Hang Lung Bank after it failed to meet liabilities.

Government bonds ended with falls of around 1/2 point in long dates. Golds fell with bullion, and U.S. shares were lower. Bonds remained dull Tuesday afternoon as the market continued to consolidate the recent gains and as New York bonds opened slightly lower.

B.P. ended 2p higher at 438 after 430, while the new shares rose 2p to 208 part paid. Other oils had Shell down 10p at 612. Elsewhere, all sectors were lower, with Ferranti down 10p at 592 in electricals, and Natwest 10p down at 617 in banks. Discount House Gerrard and National was unchanged at 220 after news the Kuwait investment office has raised its stake to 5.1 per cent.

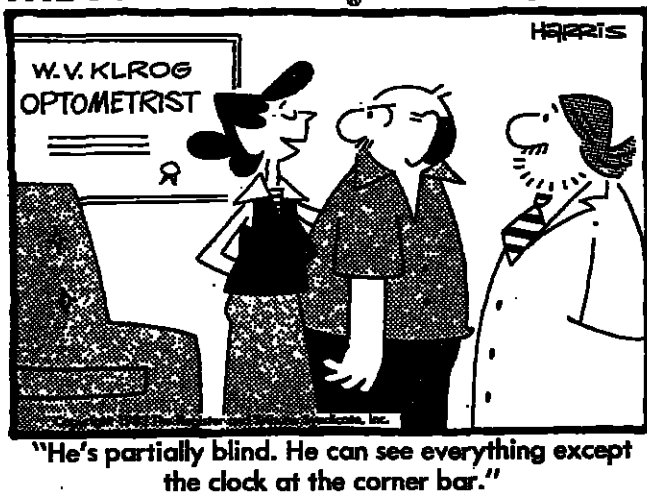
Incheape fell 13p to 298 after 293 following half year results slightly below market estimates.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4957/67	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2327/30	Canadian dollars
	2.6537/47	West German marks
	2.9680/90	Dutch guilders
	2.1467/77	Swiss francs
	53.76/80	Belgian francs
	8.0500/30	French francs
	1607.00/1608.00	Italian lire
	238.90/239.00	Japanese yen
	7.8470/8520	Swedish crowns
	7.3910/60	Norwegian crowns
	9.5620/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	413.25/413.75	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

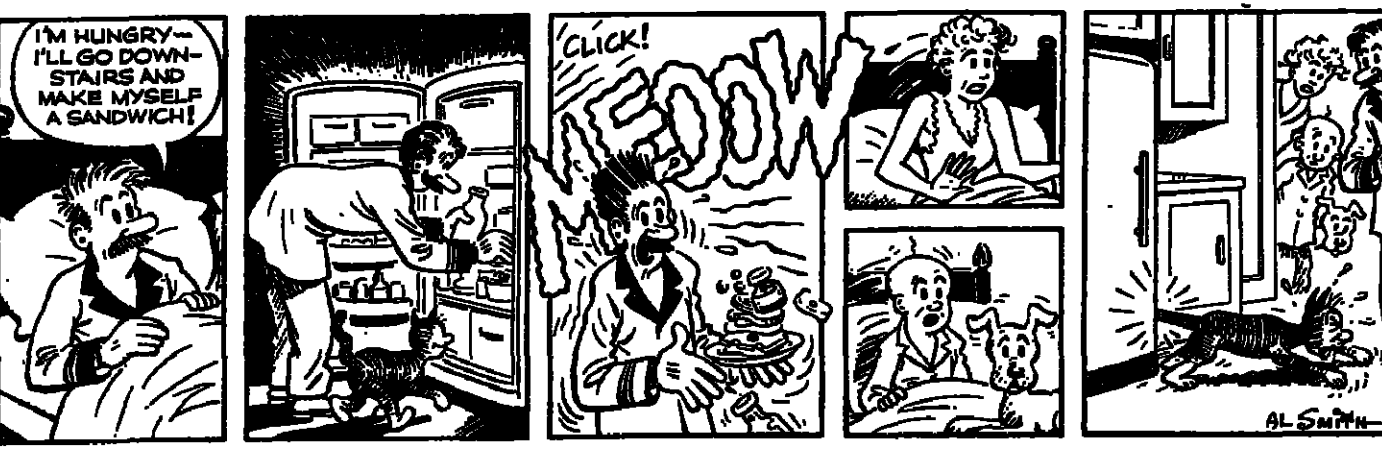


"He's partially blind. He can see everything except the clock at the corner bar."

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Manila bankers forecast further peso devaluation

MANILA (R) — Economic problems aggravated by political unrest may force the Philippines to devalue its currency again, bankers said Tuesday.

The peso was devalued by 7.25 per cent in June from 10.2 to the U.S. dollar to slightly more than 11, and bankers polled by Reuters said the rate should now be cut to at least 14 pesos.

Central Bank Deputy Governor Gabriel Singson has said no devaluation is planned, but one financial analyst reported a widespread belief that the peso would be devalued before the end of the year.

One bank official said whether and when the Philippines devalued depended on how long the central bank can wait for fresh funds. Bankers said the shooting of leading opposition figure Benigno Aquino on Aug. 21 has increased the reluctance of some foreign financial institutions to lend to the Philippines.

Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya and Prime Minister Cesar Virata are negotiating with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to draw unused portions of a standby credit to cover the country's third quarter balance of payments deficit.

Bankers have expressed concern over a balance of payments deficit of \$562 million in the first half of 1983, after a record shortfall of \$1.12 billion in the whole of 1982.

The IMF approved \$550 million in credit lines to the Philippines in February, including a compensatory financing facility of \$205 million which has already been used up.

Of the remaining \$345 million, \$200 million has been consumed to finance part of the payments deficit.

Persistent rumours that President Marcos' health is failing have intensified a mood of uncertainty, and a warning that he would hunt down businessmen joining violent anti-government rallies sent jitters through the already nervous business community.

The president's future has been a widespread topic of conversation in the U.S.-dominated foreign commercial community, which wants stability.

United States investment in the Philippines is put at around \$2 billion.

The Philippines is burdened by outstanding foreign debt of some \$17 billion, most of it owed to U.S. banks. (Related story on page 8)

Tokyo share prices hit new record high

TOKYO (R) — A strong wave of buying swept the Tokyo stock exchange to a record high Tuesday, following the example of Wall Street.

With 550 million shares changing hands, the market average added 68.37 to close at 9,414.15 compared with the earlier record high of 9,395.78.

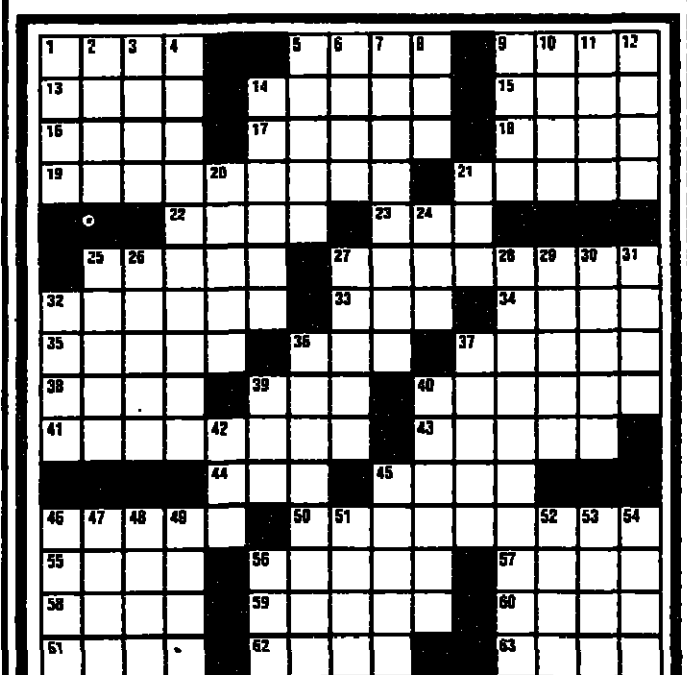
The buying spree occurred even though many Japanese companies paid out their dividends to shareholders Tuesday, which normally tends to push prices down slightly.

The Tokyo market — like New York, where the Dow Jones average closed Monday at a record 1,200.77 — is expected to see lower U.S. interest rates in the near future, which will tend to help the current economic recovery.

Japan's industry ministry Tuesday said production in August was 2.8 per cent higher than in July, while housing starts were 10 per cent higher this summer than in the summer of 1982.

THE Daily Crossword By Manny Miller

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WORLD

21 IRA escapees still free; inquiry opens

BELFAST (R) — Twenty-one men from a group of 38 Irish Republican prisoners who escaped from a top-security jail on Sunday were still on the run Tuesday as a top-level inquiry was begun into the mass breakout.

In the biggest manhunt in Northern Ireland history, police and army units recaptured 17 of the 38 prisoners who stormed out of the notorious Maze prison near Belfast, but the trail of the others appears to have gone cold.

The prisoners, mainly convicted gunmen of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla group fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland, broke out using smuggled weapons.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher described the escape as the gravest in British prison history.

Amid calls for the resignation of the official responsible for security, an inquiry headed by the chief inspector of British prisons, Sir James Hennessy, got under way as soon as he arrived here Monday.

He will be examining unconfirmed allegations that the outer prison door was open, that a third of the prison officers were off for recreation at the time of Sunday's escape and that electronic metal detecting equipment had been tampered with.

He will also be looking into how at least five guns and other weapons were smuggled into the prison, considered the most modern and security-conscious in Western Europe.

One prison warden was stabbed to death in a melee at the prison gates, another is critically ill after being shot in the head.

The escape was seen as a major propaganda boost for the IRA, which is thought to have been badly hit by a wave of arrests based on evidence from former colleagues turned police informers.

Among the prisoners still at large is Brendan McFarlane, serving 25 years for the 1976 murder of five Protestants in a bar.

In a move possibly connected with the escape, the 62-year-old father of IRA informer Raymond Gilmour, held by the IRA for 10 months in a bid to force his son to retract evidence against 70 former colleagues, was released unarmoured Monday.

Patrick Gilmour, 62, stunned his family when he returned safely to his home in Londonderry. He was accompanied by a Roman Catholic priest.

Patrick Gilmour's daughter Dymna told Reuters: "My father



British troops in Belfast check vehicles in a massive hunt for escaped IRA convicts. (A.P. wirephoto)

refuses to say anything about his kidnapping or where he was held.

She added: "He has lost about a stone (6.4 kg) in weight and is using a walking stick which he didn't before he was taken away. But we are overjoyed he is safely back with us."

She said the IRA contacted a

Catholic priest two days ago and swore him to secrecy about the pending release. The priest agreed to act as intermediary and picked up Mr. Gilmour at a pre-arranged spot.

The priest refused to tell the family whether this was in Northern Ireland or in the Irish Republic. According to British press

reports, Mr. Gilmour is believed to have been held for most of the time in the Republic.

Dymna Gilmour told reporters Monday night: "I cannot say if Raymond will retract his evidence now that our father has been freed. We will have to wait and see."

Weinberger watches Chinese firepower

PEKING (R) — China staged a 60-minute display of military firepower for U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger Tuesday before resuming talks on American aid to modernise China's armed forces.

The display, by units of the Peking garrison at their camp 40 kilometres northeast of the capital, was held on the third day of Mr. Weinberger's trip to China designed to forge military links between the two countries.

He was shown basic anti-tank and rifle shooting as well as troops running obstacle courses and engaging in hand-to-hand combat.

After the display, Mr. Weinberger told the units' leaders: "The division looks fit, ready and well-trained. It's a good division. You should be proud of it."

But military experts said the basic nature of the demonstration also illustrated the needs of the Chinese army in an era of television-guided missiles and heavily armoured and speedy personnel carriers and battle tanks.

Mr. Weinberger told reporters travelling with him on a 12-day, round-the-world trip that China was thought to be interested in buying early warning radars and air defence systems.

Other defence officials said lorries, troop-carrying helicopters and communications equipment could also be added to China's shopping list.

Mr. Weinberger was holding more talks with Defence Minister Zhang Aiping Tuesday.

One of the factors blocking a quick solution to arms transfer is China's desire to acquire advanced U.S. technology to enable it to build its own weapons and Washington's reluctance to let such knowledge pass into foreign hands.

But under new U.S. guidelines for transferring advanced technology to Peking — which Mr. Weinberger opposed — a total of 43 items requested by China have been approved compared with 11 previously. The type of equipment involved has not been disclosed.

Opposition says Reagan should cancel Manila visit

MANILA (R) — A coalition of Philippine opposition parties said Tuesday that street violence here should have been a clear message to President Reagan to cancel his planned visit to Manila in November.

"President Reagan should read the message. If he still wants to come, he will see the people's reaction," the vice-president of the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO), Eva Kalaw, told Reuters.

UNIDO, an umbrella organisation for a dozen opposition groups, has been spearheading street demonstrations which erupted into clashes with security forces last Wednesday in which 10 people died and more than 150 were injured.

The anti-government violence was the worst since President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law in 1972.

UNIDO demanded the resignation of Mr. Marcos after his leader, Benigno Aquino, was assassinated on Aug. 21 when he returned after three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

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ernment complicity in the murder. Ms. Kalaw said President Reagan's visit during a five-nation Asian tour would put a U.S. stamp of legitimacy on the Marcos administration.

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